

REMARKS

The Official Action dated September 29, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and the following remarks have been made in response thereto. Prior to entry of the foregoing amendment claims 1 through 14 were active in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Non-Patent Literature "Personal Security Agent: KQML-Based PKI" by Qi He, Katia P. Sycara and Timothy W. Finin (He et al.). Claims 3-6 and 11-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over He et al. as applied to claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 and 10, and further in view of Non-Patent Literature "Security mechanisms for the MAP agent system" by Antonio Puliafito and Orzaio Tomarchio (Puliafito et al.).

The foregoing amendment requests the cancellation of claims 2, 7, 8 and 10. Independent method claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation "the set of interdependent security agents including a configuration agent and at least one of a distribution agent, a secure copy agent, and a patrol agent". Similarly, independent system claims 9 has been amended to include the limitation "the set interdependent security agents including a configuration agent and at least one of a distribution agent, a secure copy agent, and a patrol agent". Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 9 is provided in canceled claims 2 and 10, and in the specification, page 5, line 22 through page 6, line 26.

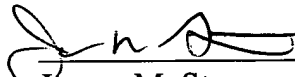
Claims 3 and 6 have been amended to depend from claim 1. Claims 11 and 14 have been amended to depend from claim 9.

The rejection of claims 1 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by He et al., and the rejection of claims 3-6 and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over He et al. and Puliafito et al. are believed to be overcome by the amendments to independent claims 1 and 9 presented above. The inventions recited in claims 1 and 9, as amended, recite the utilization of a set of

security agents, this set of security agents including a configuration agent and at least one of a distribution agent, a secure copy agent, and a patrol agent. (emphasis added) This use of multiple types of security agents is not taught or suggested in the cited references. Neither He et al. and Puliafito, taken singularly or in combination disclose a "set of interdependent security agents including a configuration agent and at least one of a distribution agent, a secure copy agent, and a patrol agent."

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that the application including claims 1, 3-6, 9 and 11-14, is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


James M. Stover
Reg. No. 32,759

NCR Corporation
1700 South Patterson Blvd.
Dayton, Ohio 45479-0001
Tel. No. (937) 445-7663
Fax No. (513) 719-6936